Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 L-03 SS-15 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-01 EB-08 COME-00 DLOS-09 TRSE-00 INT-05 /071 W

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P 082110Z MAY 78 FM AMEMBASSY OTTAWA TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7328

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E.O. 11652: N/A TAGS: EFIS, CA

SUBJECT: U.S.-CANADA 1978 INTERIM FISHERIES AGREEMENT

REF: STATE 115332

- 1. PER REFTEL, AMBASSADOR REMINDED EXTAFF UNDER SECRETARY GOTLIEB MAY 7 THAT 1978 INTERIM AGREEMENT, LIKE ITS PREDECESSORS, GOVERNS RECIPROCAL FISHING ONLY, AND DOES NOT CONSTRAIN EITHER SIDE AS REGARDS DOMESTIC FISHING. WHILE ACTIONS AFFECTING CONSERVATION ON EACH SIDE CAN HAVE A SIGNIFICANT EFFECT ON THE OTHER -- AND THUS ARE PROPER SUBJECTS OF DISCUSSION BETWEEN US -- THEY CANNOT BE TAKEN AS EVIDENCE THAT THE INTERIM FISHERIES AGREEMENT "DOESN'T WORK." THE PURPOSE OF LONG TERM AGREEMENT IS PRECISELY TO BRING SOME OF THESE DOMESTIC ACTIONS INTO NEGOTIATIONS AND MUTUAL AGREEMENT. AMBASSADOR NOTED AGAIN THAT REASON THAT LONG-TERM NEGOTIATIONS ARE NOT GOING FORWARD AT THIS TIME IS CANADIAN REQUEST FOR "HOLIDAY".
- 2. GOTLIEB EXPRESSED SURPRISE, AND SAID THAT HE WOULD HAVE ANOTHER LOOK AT THE AGREEMENT. IF THE U.S. IS RIGHT ABOUT THE EXTENT OF THE AGREEMENT "AS A LEGAL LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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MATTER," CANADIANS SHOULD SO ACKNOWLEDGE IN THE REPRESENTATIONS THEY MAKE. GOTLIEB MAINTAINED THAT BOTH SIDES SHOULD NONETHELESS REFRAIN FROM ACTIONS WHICH MIGHT AFFECT THE FUTURE IN A SIGNIFICANT AND DAMAGING WAY WHILE NEGOTIATING THE LONG-TERM AGREEMENT. AMBASSADOR RESPONDED THAT IT WAS PERFECTLY PROPER FOR US TO DISCUSS SUCH ACTIONS, AND AGREED THAT WE SHOULD

TRY TO PRESERVE THE BEST POSSIBLE CLIMATE FOR SUCCESS IN THE NEGOTIATIONS, BUT REITERATED THAT NEITHER SIDE COULD BE CONSIDERED IN BREACH OF THE AGREEMENT IF ACTIONS WERE TAKEN ON DOMESTIC FISHING THAT DID NOT MEET THE APPROVAL OF THE OTHER SIDE. ENDERS

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